

# Hill- The Next Chapter

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## Drilling Down- A History Lesson

Vernon, British Columbia is home to an Irish population. This is references in some place names, including Killiney Beach.

Killiney Beach, originally *Sproul's Landing* was discovered in 1903 and named after Killiney Hill in Dublin. The hill is topped by an Obelisk built in 1742 in memoriam of victims to the Irish Famine in 1740-41.

Sproul's Landing was a stop for sternwheelers in the day.

Although unscheduled albeit, so people would have to wave white flags by day and burn bonfires at night to attract boats. One such boat was SS.

Sicamous between its route in Penticton to Ver non. Killiney Beach suffered a devastating fire [White Rock Lake] in 2021, during one of the worst fire seasons in BC history. Sproul's Landing was in 1903 discovered by Harry Percy Hodges, who was irish by culture. He ran his own farm and was a bookkeeper in Coldstream. He married Arabel M. Ricardo, sister to W.C. Ricardo, the ranch manager. The couple had only 1 son, John. Hodges died in Victoria in 1922, but lives on through Hodges Road near Killiney Beach!

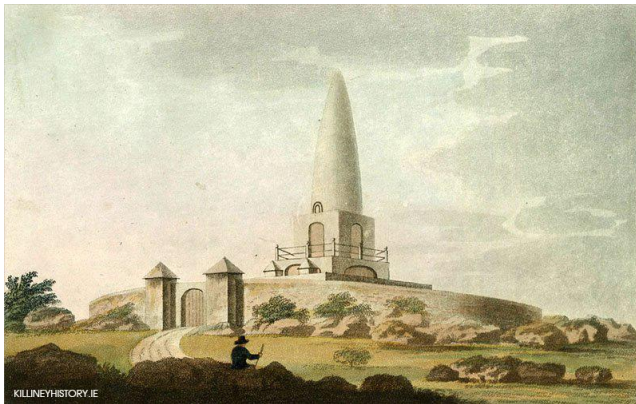
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Killiney Beach in 1944.

**Westside Road** is the trail between Fintry and Nahun and is the last remnant of the Hudson Bay trail. Then, it was used between 2 communities after Shorts Point Post Office closed. It was a tough wagon road joining Westbank and Nahun, 1908, but after 8 years of using horse teams a connection to Ewing's Landing was complete. Until so, Vernon was accessible only by Ferry. In the depression, men from relief camps at Wilson's Landing worked to improve Westside Road at Trader's Cove.

It is also the "*Tail of the Ogopogo*", named for its curves and elevation changes. It can be compared to the Tail of the Dragon in the US' Appalachians, but is mainly sought out by motorcycle enthusiasts for it's 330 curves hugging the lake going to Kelowna. The road is 67 km curving 2 major provincial parks. It was BC's "most dangerous road" from 2012



Obelisk on Killiney Hill in 1795 from a Plate by F. Jukes